March 17, 2023

Congressman Jason Crow U.S. House of Representatives Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Crow,

It is my pleasure to write to you in strong support of Mile High United Way's request for Community Project Funding for their expanded 211 service project. United Way already assists with tens of thousands of help requests in the 6th Congressional District annually, and technological upgrades to its 211 system will help provide more efficient services to Coloradans in the District.

These services connect individuals and families to financial assistance, childcare, housing, and food resources. They help people achieve economic stability, access job opportunities, and connect with workforce development resources, all of which boost economic development. Mile High United Way's well-trained staff are often able to determine the underlying causes for a caller's needs, further reducing the strain on social service providers in the long run. These technological improvements will allow Mile High United Way to work with more individuals with increased accuracy. Expanded chat and text services will allow Mile High United Way to meet the needs of the community more dynamically.

These improvements will carry a clear economic benefit. More job-seekers and employers will be connected. Families will have increased access to childcare and housing, making it easier for them to enter and remain in the workforce. And enhancements to Mile High United Way's database systems will demonstrate to potential employers that a skilled workforce exists in the 6th District that can be tapped into, bringing new employers into the 6th District and spurring job creation.

Jason, I've been involved with United Way for over 20 Years and am currently on their Board of Trustees so I am very familiar with the value this service is to the community. Thank you for your consideration and all the work you do in Washington for our community.

All the best,

Teresa Van De Bogart

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